Richmond Times-Dispatch

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7 SHOPPING DAYS

64th YEAR

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PRICE 2 CENTS.

GERMAN FLEET DASHES INTO NORTH BOMBARDS ENGLISH TOWNS, AND ESCAPES

IF EFFORT FAILS,

FORCE IS ONLY RECOURSE

Defensive Fire Will Be Begun if Latest Request Is Not Heeded.

the United States Army, left ern themselves, he said. personal influence with the factions across the border to top their firing into American terri-Lieutenant-Colonel Robert E. L.

ommission of actual crimes." Gutler-ez sald a decree would be published o-day or to-morrow "prohibiting the out of summary executions. nd providing for the trial of the acused by a court-martial."

VIEWED WITH HORROR
BY CIVILIZED WORLD

overnment that military authorities at and that the Governor of Coahuila had been ordered to stop all confiscation procedure in the case of H. Brendel cental on his farms had been

Carranza and Villa armies is in prog-ress near San Pedro de las Colonies, east of Torreon. Several columns of

Both sides have ample artillery, and the fighting is described as desperate. Reinforcements for both armies are being rushed to the scene of battle. The Carranza advance marks a long threatened movement to take Torreon, railroad centre of the interior, and to shut off Villa's communication from the north. Villa garrisons in Northern Mexico have been depleted by the movement into Mexico City, and troops from the national capital probably will he sent to the northern theatre of war.

It appears that Carranza, from Vera Cruz, has ordered a general movement Four hundred from General Hill's forces in the extreme east of Sonora are moving on Juarez, held by a small Villa garrison.

by the appearance in Central Chihua-hua of General Jose Ynez Salazar, the former Federal leader, who escaped recently from jail at Albuquerque, N. M. It was learned that more than 1,000,000 rounds of ammunition destined for Salazar had passed the border safely George C. Carothers, the American State Department's representative General Villa, arrived at El Paso to-

day. Carranza agents to-day repeated pre-vious claims that San Luis Potosi had

RELEASE IS DEMANDED BY BRITISH CONSUL. ma Canal.

DOUGLAS, Ariz, December 16 .- J. T. T. Paxton, British consul here, made a demand to-day on Governor Jose May-torena for the immediate release of H. Perry Meaker, a British subject, held partisans to escape into Sinaloa. Menker, it is said, was deceived by Mexican rangers who induced him to ments of the State Department furnish transportation for them after

they learned that a messenger carrying their pleage of loyalty to Carranza had fallen into the hands of Maytorena's

Yaqui Inndians.

Fighting at Cima, thirty miles south, between 250 Carranza troops and a like number of Maytorena soldiers. continued to-day. Agua Prieta officials reported heavy losses on both sides.

HOLIDAY FOR CENSORS

(ANDON, December 16.—The official press bureau and censor office have decided to take a holiday from 2 P. M. December 24 to 9 P. M. Christmas dure, minister pleniopentiary of 102, during which period no news will brance, at Mexico, who is traveling 000,000 in cotton exports compared with be pass for transmission.

PLEADS FOR FILIPINOS

Vice-Governor of Islands Want Them

BULLETS FOLLOW

WASHINGTON, December 16.—
Prompt passage of the bill giving the Philippine Islands a greater measure of self-government was urged before the Senate Philippine Committee to-day by Henderson S. Martin, Vice-Governor of the Islands. Mr. Martin suggested that a definite plan upon which complete independence should be granted should be included in the measure.

Border.

WASHINGTON, December 16.—
Prompt passage of the bill giving the Philippine Islands a greater measure of self-government was urged before the Senate Philippine Committee to-day by Henderson S. Martin, Vice-Governor of the Islands. Mr. Martin suggested that a definite plan upon which complete independence should be granted should be included in the measure.

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Mr. Martin said he believed the

WASHINGTON, December 16.—Brigabler-General Hugh L. Scott, chief of He had no fear of their ability to gov-

LOOK TO SOUTH AMERICA

Virginia, Tennessee and Kentucky May

WASHINGTON, December 16 .- The d him.

i effort fail, and no threat of the Americommunicated to both

WASHINGTON, December 15.—The hear probabilities of Virginia, Tennessee and bill. Kentucky coal operators developing a man coal trade in South America was discorptional tra ate committee investigating charges that the Southern Railway had bottled up this coal field on behalf of a "coal

Frank C. Wright, of Bristol, Tenn. declared that as soon as the Charleston, S. C., coal piers were inished an attempt would be made to compete with Welsh coal in South America.

Attorneys for the Southern inquired if the heavy return cargoes of British ships carrying coal to South America were not such a large factor in the sale of Welsh coal hat American operators could not overcome the advantage.

"We thing not," responded Mr. Wright. "Of course, that is one of the problems this government faces in purchasing ships for the commercial business."

PAID FOR CONFESSION

as learned to-day that the United Mrs. David Korshak Tells Why She

CHICAGO, December 16 .- Mrs. David to setting fire to many stores in the interest of the alleged "arson ring," to-day told on the witness stand that for the alleged state of the state

month from Fish, part of which she sent to her husband, then in hiding in London. Later she declared Fish cut down the payments, and she agreed with counsel for the underwriters to aid in the prosecution of the alleged

GIFTS TO EDUCATION

General Board Shows Rockefeller Has Contributed \$39,715,720.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
NEW YORK, December 15.—T
General Education Board, founded FIRST IMPORTANT BATTLE
NOW IS IN PROGRESS
John D. Rockefeller, made public tonight the first installment of the report
which will be issued on January 1. This report shows the board gifts to educational institutions amounting to \$39,715,720. Of this

The tollowing girts from Mr. Rocket feller are recorded: June 30, 1905, in \$10,000,000. February, 1907, \$32,000,000. in July 7, 1909, \$10,000,000. cal The board's present resources are stated to be \$33,939,156.

"LOOPS LOOP" IN COLD

After Daring Feat, Aviator Has to Be Lifted From Sent.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] NEW YORK, December 16.—Under numbing conditions of cold in the upper ment air, Aviator F. A. Thompson "looped men the loop" in three successive white at e ex- a height of 5,000 feet above the aviatreme east of Sonora are moving on Juarez, held by a small Villa garrison. Five hundred Carranza troops from Coahulla recently passed below the United States Army Aviation Corps, Sierra Blanca, Texas, on their way toward Juarez.

The situation has been complicated from his monolance by ward to the United States Army Aviation Corps. from his monoplane he was so numb with cold that he had to be lifted from

SHIP ALLOWED TO SAIL

Norwegian Gladstone, sailed to-day for Valparaiso and Puerto Montt, Chile, via Limond, Costa Rica and the Pana-

t charge of having aided Carranza R. Hamilton, investigated the case, and isans to escape into Sinaloa. it was announced to-day that the ker, it is said, was deceived by vessel had compiled with all require-

THE "RE HOMEWARD BOUND

Many Americans Coming From Europe for Holidays.

LONDON, December 16,-A big crowd of Americans is homeward bound to spend Christmas. Among the notables are Charles M. Schwab, Chandler Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Arbuthnot No News From War Will Be Passed on Christmas Day.

daughter, Mrs. George Crouch and son, was \$56,630,650; for September, \$19,411, Mr. and Mrs. John C. Knapp, Mrs. 722, while in August it was \$19,400,406 James C. Potter, John Wanamaker, Jr., against the United States. France, at Mexico, who is twith Mrs. Page, and Mr. Hale.

More Men.

ROOSEVELT GOES ON STAND CONFLICTS ARE DESPERATE

He Places United States Third in Allies Report Gains, but Are Point of Armored Fighting Craft.

WASHINGTON, December 16 .- The confidential war plans of the War College," according to Franklin D. Roosevelt, Assistant Secretary of the Navy Department, who testified today at the House Naval Committee's hearings on the Land operations however as on pre-

the three leading powers as England, 7,766.
England, 7,766.
Germany, 3,818.
United States, 2,562.
Better ships and equipment for the naval militia were urged by Mr. Roosevelt as the most practical way of buildwell as the most practical way of buildvelt as the most practical way of build-ing up a reserve. He said the navy now could command about 7,000 mill-

other nations have been making pre-paration in various ways—drilling, organizing and so on—for some months, all being directed to actual prosecu-

ceived," he added, "certain other na-tions have very greatly increased their submarine strength."
Rear-Admiral Fisk, aid for prepara-tions, will testify to-morrow, and Rep-

resentative Gardner, of Massachusetts,

ARMY RESERVE PROPOSED

Details for Increase Set Forth in Bill WITH BRITISH FLEET HELPING,

this Senate Military Committee.

man would serve the first three years in the regular army and three years in the reserve. The reserve would be called out by the President in time of war or threatened war. For an officer's reserve, the President would be authorized to appoint citizens qualifying under regulations to be prescribed by the Secretary of War, none to be commissioned above the grade of colonel.

allies to gain more ground in their march toward Ostend, part of the general plan believed to have been eral plan believed to have been eral plan believed to have been effensive throughout Planders and Eastern France.

The action extended from a point northeast of Nieuport, through the district about the town of Lombaertzyde, and to a point on the coast a few miles from where the shells were crashing

One thousand additional officers of into Westende.

The brunt of the fighting was borne to regular army would be provided. for in the measure to maintain the army at full strength at all times. The following officers of the line would be contained by the thought that following officers of the line would be contained by the thought that following officers of the line would be contained by the thought that following officers of the line would be contained by the contained by the leaves of the line would be contained by the contained by the leaves of the line would be contained by the contained by the leaves of the line would be provided by the British and Belgian troops, the latter inspired by the thought that the leaves of the line would be provided by the British and Belgian troops, the latter inspired by the thought that the latter inspired by the latter inspired by the latter inspired by the contained by the latter inspired by the lat

tenant-colonels, 109 majors, 498 cap-terrific ordeals tains, 293 first lieutenants and 322 along the coast,

call of the President, also is proposed, and provisions are made for requirement in emergency of mechanically-propelled vehicles, none of which has seen more than four years' ser-

WILSON GOES SHOPPING

President Joins Hollday Throng In Quest of Gifts.

and of the places were crowded, and at the times the President had to push his field of action has been fought over lire-way energetically to get what he wanted. He was recognized by many than the other stubbornly holding to shoppers, and greeted all who spoke to him with a broad smile. Severi secret-service men accompanied him.

pentiary of 467,037. There was a decrease of \$71,-is traveling 000,000 in cotton exports compared with I November, 1913.

Operations.

Meeting Effective Counter-

LONDON, December 16 .- The raid of cape in a fog after having bombarded

hearings on the naval appropriation
bill. Mr. Roosevelt explained that
many additional men would be needed
for purposes other than manning ships
now in commission. Asked why serviceable vessels were taid up in reserve, he said no nation kept all of
the french official reports, have made
further slight progress. This was acfurther slight progress. This was accommission.

viceable vessels were laid up viceable vessels vessels were laid up viceable vessels v

Further inland the French also claim Descent of Germans on English Coast British Had Believed Their Fleet to have gained ground, although in a less marked degree than on previous days. In the Argonne there apparently The navy, Mr. Roosevelt assured the committee, went steadily forward during the past year. It improved its personnel and added submarines and torpedo boats, he said, and now has better ships and more ammunition than ever before.

"Are we any less pressed the submarines are being of Raid and Roosevelt assured the committee, went steadily forward during the past year. It improved its and Alsace, the two other regions where fighting has been in progress for some time, the Germans appear to have delivered counterstacks.

Towns Apparently Is for Moral Effect.

Sufficient to Render Such Attack Impossible.

Sufficient t

ever before.

"Are we any less prepared than ever before?" asked Representative Gray.

"I am unable to answer that question, as I do not know definitely the present condition of certain other powers," replied the witness.

"Have you any reason to believe we are any less prepared?"

In Poland preparations are being made for a new battle, or series of battles. The Russians, according to a former member of the Cabinet at Petrograd, have decided, despite the disappointment it must cause, to withdraw their left wing at least and form a new line back in their own territory. are any less prepared?"

"Yes, comparativel, because certain other nations have been making preThis will relieve Cracow, but will compared the compared to t

compel the Austro-German forces to fight farther away from the strategic railways, from which they have moved troops quickly to desired points, This plan doubtless will affect the

cast of Torreon. Several columns of Carranza troops from Coahuila State, aggregating about 5,000 men, under Colonel Hifonso Vasquez, are engaged by a slightly larger force under General Villa.

Both sides have ample artillery, and show the Colonel Highly larger are recorded: June 30, 1905.

throwing themselves into the battle Twenty-four colonels, forty-six lieu- with revived enthusiasm despite their ordeals of the earlier weeks The success of the hombardment and

four captains, 187 first lieutenants and 187 second lieutenants.

An army transportation reserve corps, to be made up of chauffeurs and machinists, and to be subject to the call of the President, also is pro-

pulsed, the Belgians throwing the Germans back for heavy losses, and fol-lowing up their advantage by occupy-ing some farms on the left bank of

was made, as well as along the rail-road line running to Labassee. This each foot of territory and yielding only after fierce onslaughts. In to-day's en-gagements the opposing troops were at times so close that hand grenades

BALANCE IS FAVORABLE

Exports of United States Are Increasing Itapidity.

WASHINGTON, December 16.—November foreign trade statistics show a

claims victories for the allies in ar-

German Raid Has Precedence in News Coming From War Zone

The German warship raid on British coast towns and their escape in a mist, takes precedence in news from the European war zone. The Germans evaded patrols and mines, and poured shells into the towns of Hartlepool, Scarborough and Whitby. Though in some quarters it is believed this was a feint to draw the British fleet from strategic points in the North Sea, or perhaps was intended for moral effect, the German guns did a vast amount of damage and wounded many persons.

In the land fighting, the allies continue to claim successes and progress in Belgium, while in the eastern arena the Germans again are pressing the Russians. Five army corps, aggregating about 200,000 men, are arriving in Warsaw to strengthen the garrison. vices deny that Austria is seeking a peace agreement with Russia.

France estimates that the war for the six months in 1915 will cost her \$1,185,888.573, or about \$200,000,000 monthly.

Vienna has admitted officially, according to a Rome dispatch, that 100,000 Austrians were killed or wounded in the unsuccessful cam-

The German embassy at Washington has received advices from the German minister to Chile, saying that in the recent fight between British and German warships off the Falklands, the British ships were badly damaged and one apparently was sunk.

Basel, Switzerland, reports that the French armies apparently have taken the offensive on the front from Belfort to Sainte Marie Aux Mines, and have convected Thann into a stronghold.

Washington has sent the cruiser Tacoma to Colon to protect the neutrality of the Canal Zone.

Sufficient to Render Such

North Sea is, and has been, an un-known quantity. There is reason to believe, however, that it is formidable.

Great Britain has some warships in the

Yorkshire on a headland extending into

North Sea. Its population is about 25,-

MOVEMENT NOT SCREEN ENGLAND'S CONFIDENCE FOR GENERAL INVASION IS SHATTERED BY RAID

Towns Apparently Is for

portance, but Daring of Raid Through Cordon of British Ships Thrills Nations.

WASHINGTON, December 16.—Officlai and diplomatic Washington was
thrilled to-day with the news of the
bombardment by German cruisers of
the east coast of England.
The actual attack on British coast
towns, accomplishing, even in a small
way, the long talked-of descent of the
German navy on the English coast, deGerman navy on the English coast, de-WASHINGTON, December 16 .-- Offi-

This plan doubtiess will affect the rest of the battle front, only except in the extreme north of Poland, where the German columns have been driven back by superior Russian force.

A Rome dispatch discredits the Austrians with having admitted the loss of 100,000 men in their expedition against Servia, and there subsequent defeat by the army of that little nations which American defense might be in-

RAID IS BELIEVED

WASHINGTON, December 16.—Creation of a regular army reserve, increase of the enlistment period and maintenance of the mobile army at all time at maximum strength were proposed in bills introduced to-day by Senator Chamberlain, chairman of the Senator Chamberlain chairman of the Senator Chamberlain chairman of the Senator Chamberlain chairman cruisers of opinion among time to marines, shu so far as is known, the marines, but so far as is known, the marines, but so far as is known, the marines, but so far as is known, the mar moral effect, and did not screen a general invasion by Zeppelins and German submarines, although Great Britain's vulnerability to such attacks was to some extent emphasized by it. Experts thought any sustained attack on the English coast would require many more ships than were engaged to-day, and by the time any effort was made to by the time any effort was made to land an expeditionary force, the English fleet could be brought into action.

The view of most naval experts was made to belief that the German ships might grown attempt some manoeuvre.

BERMANY INDICATE NAVAL ACTIVITY

Dispatches from Germany for a month past have indicated the Germans were preparing at their sea bases for naval activity. Few details of what was going on have developed. The British patrolling squadron endeavored by the belief that the German ships might good attempt some manoeuvre.

The view of most naval experts was soon attempt some manoeuvre. tactician:

"As reported, there were only four German cruisers, and they bombarded hree towns on the east coast of England, within a range of about fifty miles. Since no one of these towns miles. Since no one of these towns contains anything which is of military from where the shells were crashing into Westende.

The brunt of the fighting was borne

The brunt of the fighting was bor "No military value can be attached

cerned. The number of ships employed would be useless for invasion purposes, unless there were troop ships back them. While this can be considered of them. While this can be considered of them already have succumbed to the vigilance of Germany's enemies.

The British naval strength in the North Sea is, and has been, an unsecond lieutenants.

The coast artillery in addition would get twelve new colonels, twelve lieutenant-colonels, forty majors, seventy-four captains, 187 first lieutenants and 187 second lieutenants.

The success of the bombardment and its dependent land movement was chronicled in the 11 o'clock official communique from the War Office. The to take advantage of any concentration of British forces sent to head off the marines attending the German cruisers to take advantage of any concentration of British forces sent to head off the

WOULD INVADE AFTER

SERIOUS NAVAL ACTION "If the Germans invade England, they will do it after a serious naval action, in which major vessels take part. No in which major vessels take part. No other military movement is conceivable

experts of the House, expressed the opinion that the German attack was in the nature of a feint.

Data gathered to-day in official quarters revealed that the east coast

He Does Not Wish to Appear Before Naval Committee.

WASHINGTON, December 16 .- Theomittee. He sent a telegram to the com complish any good, and Representative on a promontory that extends into the former President be invited.

GETS BY COMMITTEE

Pending Treaty With Mearagus Ordered Favorably Reported.

tillery engagements in the region of Arras, in the region of the Alsne and in Champagne. French victory is also announced in the Woevfe district, where several German attacks in the forest of Montmare were repulsed.

(Continued on Third Page.)

WASHINGTON, December 16.—The senate Foreign Relations Committee to-day ordered the pending treaty with Nicaragua favorably reported to the Senate. By its terms, the United States would pay \$3,000,000 for the Nicaraguan Canal route and naval bases on the Bay of Fonseca. WASHINGTON, December 16 .- The

SOIL OF BRITAIN Shower of Shells Hurled Into Scarborough, Hartlepool and Whitby. MANY PERSONS KILLED

CORDON OF SHIPS

FAILS TO PROTECT

AND PROPERTY DAMAGED Invaders, Attacked by Defending Flotilla, Take to Heels and

Disappear in Mist.

REPORTED Unconfirmed Dispatches Say Two German Vessels Are Sent

to Bottom.

LONDON, December 16 .- For the first time in centuries England has been struck by a foreign foe. A squadron of swift German cruisers crept through the fog last night to the castern coast and turned its guns against the

Britons.

When day broke they began bombardment of three important towns—Hartlepool, at the mouth of the Tees; Whitby, thirty-five miles southward, and Scarborough, noted as a pleasure resort, fifteen miles beyond.

Hartlepool suffered most. There two beatle contacts and a present explains.

battle cruisers and an armored cruiser were engaged. The British War Office fixes the number of dead at Hartlepool

Not Been Bottled Up and Can Pencirate Even Formidable Cordon of Warships Drawn About Isles.

Bombardment of English east coast

We were killed and two wounded.

Men, women and children of the civilian population were left dead or wounded, struck without warning while at work. In all, the casualty lists totals 110, according to the official estimates, of whom thirty-one are known to be dead. Bombardment of English east coast to be dead.

This patrol has been maintained since early in August. It has from time to time been penetrated by German subtime between be

belief that the German snips man.

Soon attempt some manoeuvre.

The Kiel Canal, running from the but full reports have not yet been received.

sible for Germany to concentrate her entire fleet in either one water or the tunity other. By bringing through "The Admiralty takes the opportunity of pointing out that demonstraother. By bringing through the canal such vessels as she may have used since the beginning of the war in the tions of this character, against unfortified towns or commercial ports, though not difficult to accomplish, provided a certain amount of risk is accepted, are devoid of military signifi-Germany could concentrate in

cance.

"They may cause some loss of life among the civilian population and some damage to private property which is much to be regretted but they operated in the Pacific and in the among Southern Atlantic. These vessels do not exceed nine or ten, and a number which is must not in any circumstances be allowed to modify the general naval policy which is being pursued.

BATTERIES ARE REPORTED TO HAVE DAMAGED SHIPS "The land batteries replied, and are reported to have hit and damaged the

Mediterranean, and, during the past six weeks, it is evident she sent some enemy. "At 8:50 the firing ceased, and the of her ships to the South Atlantic to enemy of her ships to the South Atlantic to pursue German cruisers raiding commerce. How many vessels were assigned to that duty is not definitely

known. Whatever the disposition of Batallion of the Durham Light In-British ships of war outside of Eng-fantry.

"The casualties among the troops

OF DEFENDING FORCES

At other points in Flanders the day was much in favor of the allies. A counterattack by the Germans on the Belgian post ion at St. Georges was repulsed, the Belgians throwing the factors.

Which will attain results."

Representative Richmond Pearson the North Sea a very large proportion of her naval strength.

SCARBOROUGH SEAPORT

"The casualties among the treops dences that she has concentrated in the North Sea a very large proportion of her naval strength.

SCARBOROUGH SEAPORT

"The casualties among the treops dences that she has concentrated in the North Sea a very large proportion of her naval strength.

SCARBOROUGH SEAPORT

"Unring the hombarder set on fire." and the gas works were set on fire,
"During the bombardment, especially
in West Hartlepool, the people crowded in the streets, and approximately twenty-two were killed and fifty Scarborough is a seaport and fash-

the North Sea. It is thirty-seven miles northeast of the important English city of York. It is a little more than 200 miles from London.

Scarborough has been popularly

"At the same time, a battle cruiser and an armored cruiser appeared off Scarborough and fired about fifty shots, which caused considerable damage, and thirteen casualties are reported. "At the same time, a battle cruiser thirteen casualties are reported.
"At Whitby two battle cruisers fired

Scarborough has been popularly styled "The Queen of Watering Places." The town has a large aquarium, museum and a fine drive and promenade pier. The permanent population is more than 40,000. Hartlepool is a seaport of a municipal borough, in the southeast portion of the County of Durham. It is about forty miles northwest of Scarborough on a promontory that extends into the SPREADS OVER ENGLAND A ways of interest anger has spread.

A wave of intense anger has spread A wave of intense anger has spread over England because of the attack. Bitter denunciation is heard everywhere of a policy which permits shell-provided with a year system of docks. habitants The fiartlepools, which are provided with a vast system of docks, before the war had an active trade with the Baltic ports, and with Hamburg, Antwerp and Rotterdam. The chief industries are shipbuilding, iron founding and the construction of management of the system of the enemy as is Atlantic City on the New Jersey Coast.

rine engines.

Hartlepool was the place where the Comte de Bar landed from his fleet in 1171 to assist William the Lion in in (Continued on Third Page.)

New Jersey Const.

Scarborough, with its old castle on a high hill, the big casino with a high tower and the row of pretentious hotels on the water front, presents a shining mark for target practice. Few

Marina Quezada Satisfies All Requirements of State Department. NEWPORT NEWS, VA., December 16 | vice. -After being granted clearance papers for those ports, the Costa Rican steamer, Marina Quezada, formerly the

Washington, becember 16.—President Washington, becember 16.—President Wilson did his Christmas shophere as the Gladstone, it was reported that she was to take supplies for the German fleet, then in Southern Pacific waters. Collector of Customs, Norman R. Hamilton, investigated the case, and of the places were crowded, and a jewery store for his gifts. All the control of the places were crowded, and a property of the places were crowded that the east coast of the advantage by occupying some farms on the left bank of the fleet gives, probably is value.

Washington, becember 16.—President advantage by occupying some farms on the left bank of the fleet gives, probably is value.

To the southeast of Ypres progress was made, as well as along the rail-production of the places were crowded that the east coast of the places which have great strategic value.

ROOSEVELT DECLINES

derson, Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Arbuthnot and two daughters, J. Mile Barbour, C. balance in favor of the United States (M. Barron, Mrs. W. A. Barron and daughter, Mrs. George Crouch and son, was \$56,630,650; for September, \$16,341,... The afternoon official communique